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ABSTRACT

Statistics on minority enrollment in Connecticut institutions of higher education for 1976-1982 are reviewed. Trends include the following: there were 13,326 minority students enrolled in Connecticut public and private institutions in fall 1982; minority enrollment grew 26.2 percent between 1976 and 1980; enrollment increased in each ethnic category between 1976 and 1980; from 1980 to 1982, enrollment of black students declined by 3.6 percent, while enrollment of other minority enthnic groups and nonresident aliens continued to increase significantly; minority enrollment dropped by 11.8 percent at the regional independent institutions from 1980 to 1982, and by 3.3 percent at the University of Connecticut; the largest percent increase occurred at the state technical colleges, up 30.8 percent in 1982 from 1980; the largest headcount increase occurred at the regional communnity colleges; minority students received 5.6 percent of all degrees awarded in 1980-1981; and minority students represented 7.3 percent of first-professional degree recipients in 1980-1981. It is noted that at both state and national levels, minorities are still underrepresented in higher education. Fall 1982 enrollment data of minority students are presented by educational level for each institution. (SW)

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Report

Research Report R-3-83

Board of Governors for Higher Education
Department of Higher Education
State of Connecticut

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MINORITIES IN CONNECTICUT HIGHER EDUCATION

This report combines data on minority enrollment presented in Research Report R-2-83 with data on degrees conferred to minority students presented in Research Report R-1-82. Together, these data provide a comprehensive overview of minorities in Connecticut higher education since 1976.

Highlights

There were 13,326 minority students enrolled in Connecticut institutions of higher education in fall 1982, or 8.2 percent of the total Connecticut college population. This compares to 6.9 percent in fall 1976 (page 4).

Minority enrollment in Connecticut institutions of higher education grew 26.2 percent between 1976 and 1980, compared to a national growth rate of 15.3 percent. At both the state and national levels, however, minorities still are under-represented in higher education (page 3).

Enrollment increased in each ethnic category between 1976 and 1980 (page 2). From 1980 to 1982, however, enrollment of black students declined by 3.6 percent (-285) students, while enrollment of other minority ethnic groups and non-resident aliens continued to increase significantly. Enrollment of white students increased 0.9 percent during the same period (page 2).

Minority enrollment dropped by 11.8 percent at the regional independent institutions from 1980 to 1982, and by 3.3 percent at the University of Connecticut. The largest percent increase occurred at the state technical colleges, up 30.8 percent in 1982 from 1980. The largest headcount increase occurred at the regional community colleges, up 504 students in 1982 from 1980 (page 5).

- Minority students received 5.6 percent of all degrees awarded in 1980-81, compared to 5.2 percent in 1978-79 and 4.9 percent in 1975-76 (page 8). Minority students continue to be well-represented among first- professional degree recipients (7.3 percent in 1980-81) given their historically low representation among bachelor's degree recipients (page 8).

- When enrollment rates are compared to graduation rates, it appears that minority students are somewhat less likely to complete programs than non-minority students. Currently available data, however, do not allow for the calculation of retention rates by enrollment status, program types, or other student characteristics -- all factors which may help to explain the observed differences (page 8).

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Minority Enrollment[1]

There were 13,326 minority students enrolled in Connecticut institutions of higher education in fall 1982, or 8.2 percent of the total Connecticut college population. Between 1976 and 1982, minority participation in Connecticut higher education grew by 31.7 percent, compared to an 8.7 percent growth among non-minority students. Growth occurred in all ethnic categories between 1976 and 1982 as shown in Table 1.

TABLE 1

ENROLLMENT BY ETHNIC CATEGORY AND PERCENT CHANGE
IN CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
FALL 1976 - FALL 1982

	1976	1978	1980	1982	% Change 1976-82	% Change 1980-82
Black, Non-Hispanic	6,989	7,532	7,907	7,622	+ 9.1%	- 3.6%
Native American	296	308	474	574	+ 93.9%	+ 21.1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	762	1,157	1,643	2,021	+165.2%	+ 23.0%
Hispanic	2,074	2,665	2,753	3,109	+ 49.9%	+ 12.9%
TOTAL, MINORITY	10,121	11,662	12,777	13,326	+ 31.7%	+ 4.3%
White, Non-Hispanic	134,984	140,635	144,789	146,013	+ 8.2%	+ 0.9%
Non-Resident Alien	1,453	1,945	2,488	3,148	+116.7%	+ 26.5%
TOTAL, NON-MINORITY	136,437	142,580	147,277	149,161	+ 8.7%	+ 1.3%
TOTAL	146,558	154,242	160,054	162,487	+ 10.9%	+ 1.5%

Table 1 also shows that in the six-year period between 1976 and 1982, the largest rate of enrollment growth took place in the Asian or Pacific Islander student population, which almost tripled (+165.2%; +1,021), and in the non-resident alien population, which more than doubled (+116.7%; +3,148) in enrollment. The smallest rate of enrollment growth was in the white ethnic category (+8.2%; +11,029) followed by enrollment of black students (+9.1%; +633). The largest headcount growth was in the white category.

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[1]Minority refers to black, Native American, Asian or Pacific Islander and Hispanic students who are either United States citizens or permanent residents. Non-minority refers to all other students, including white (non-Hispanic) and non-resident aliens. Minority data are collected biannually.

Although the total number of minority students enrolled in Connecticut higher education has increased in each reporting period, the rate of growth is decelerating. From 1976 to 1978, the minority student population grew by 15.2 percent (+1,541) compared to 9.6 percent from 1978 to 1980 (+1,115) and 4.3 percent from 1980 to 1982 (+549). Enrollment of black students actually declined by 3.6 percent (-285 students) from 1980 to 1982.

Table 2 compares minority enrollment in Connecticut higher education to national rates (national data are not yet available for 1982).

TABLE 2

CONNECTICUT AND NATIONAL PARTICIPATION RATES
FOR MINORITY STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION
FALL 1976 - FALL 1982

	1976	1978	1980	1982
Minorities as Percent of National Population	-	-	20.4%*	-
Minorities as Percent of Connecticut Population	-	-	12.0%*	-
Minorities as Percent of Students in Higher Education - National (including non-resident aliens)	15.4% (17.4%)	15.9% (18.1%)	16.1% (18.7%)	n.a.
Minorities as Percent of Students in Higher Education - Connecticut (including non-resident aliens)	6.9% (7.9%)	7.6% (8.8%)	8.0% (9.5%)	8.2% (10.1%)

*Includes non-resident aliens who belong to ethnic minority groups.

While minorities are enrolled in Connecticut institutions at rates below the national level (8.0% vs. 16.1% in 1980), it is important to note that there are proportionally fewer minorities in the Connecticut population than in the nation generally (12.0% vs. 20.4%). At both the state and national levels, minorities are still under-represented in higher education. In Connecticut institutions of higher education, however, minority enrollment grew 26.2 percent between 1976 and 1980, compared to a national growth rate of 15.3 percent.

Table 3 presents minority enrollment by student level for the six-year period, 1976-1982. In 1982, 8.8 percent of all undergraduates were minority students, compared to 8.6 percent at the first-professional level and 5.2 percent at the graduate level. Minority participation at the undergraduate level has risen steadily between 1976 and 1982 while at the graduate level, it dropped in 1982 from 1980. Participation at the first-professional level has fluctuated, with a high of 9.6 percent in 1978.

Minority representation in first-professional programs, however, continues to exceed the proportion of bachelor's degrees that are awarded to minority students in Connecticut (5.0% in 1981), which is a measure of the qualified pool of candidates for these programs.

TABLE 3

MINORITY STUDENTS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ENROLLMENT BY LEVEL IN CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FALL 1976 - FALL 1982

	1976		1978		1980		1982	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Undergraduate	9,022	7.7%	10,214	8.2%	10,969	8.5%	11,665	8.8%
Graduate	890	3.5%	1,192	4.4%	1,579	5.7%	1,379	5.2%
First-Professional	209	8.7%	256	9.6%	229	7.6%	282	8.6%
TOTAL	10,121	6.9%	11,662	7.6%	12,777	8.0%	13,326	8.2%

Table 4 presents minority enrollment by type of institution from 1976 to 1982.

TABLE 4

ENROLLMENT OF MINORITY STUDENTS BY TYPE OF INSTITUTION IN CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FALL 1976 - FALL 1982

	1976		1978		1980		1982	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
PUBLIC INSTIUTIONS								
University of Connecticut	807	3.7%	1,104	5.2%	1,400	6.6%	1,392	6.1%
UConn Health Center	20	4.3%	24	4.8%	34	6.4%	41	7.9%
Connecticut State University	1,427	4.3%	1,092	3.4%	1,891	5.8%	1,958	6.0%
Regional Community Colleges	3,964	13.8%	4,306	12.9%	4,191	12.3%	4,695	13.3%
State Technical Colleges	359	6.1%	638	9.3%	614	7.8%	803	8.8%
TOTAL, STATE INSTITUTIONS	6,577	7.3%	7,164	7.6%	8,170	8.4%	8,889	8.9%
U.S. Coast Guard Academy	50	4.9%	42	4.6%	56	6.2%	58	6.2%
TOTAL, PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS	6,627	7.3%	7,206	7.6%	8,226	8.4%	8,947	8.9%
INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS								
Four-Year National	1,313	8.7%	1,619	9.8%	1,614	9.4%	1,744	10.1%
Four-Year Regional	2,086	5.4%	2,733	6.6%	2,840	6.5%	2,506	5.9%
Two-Year Independent	95	8.3%	104	6.8%	97	6.1%	129	8.3%
TOTAL, INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS	3,490	7.2%	4,456	7.5%	4,551	7.3%	4,379	7.1%
TOTAL, ALL INSTITUTIONS	10,121	6.9%	11,662	7.6%	12,777	8.0%	13,326	8.2%

*Estimated, based on 1980 data.

Minority student enrollment as a proportion of all enrollment has increased from 6.9 percent in 1976 to 8.2 percent in 1982. In the public sector, the percentage rose from 7.3 percent to 8.9 percent. In the independent sector, minority participation has fluctuated over the period with the minority percentage in 1982 (7.1%) slightly lower than the percentage in 1976 (7.2%).

- At the University of Connecticut, minority enrollment as a percent of total enrollment increased from 3.7 percent in 1976 to 6.6 percent in 1980, but declined to 6.1 percent in 1982. Headcount minority enrollment also declined in 1982 from 1980 (-48 students).

- At the UConn Health Center, minority enrollment doubled from 20 to 41 students between 1976 and 1982. By 1982, minorities represented 7.9 percent of all students.

- Minority enrollment at the Connecticut State University has increased steadily from 3.4 percent in 1978 to 6.0 percent in 1982, following a decline in 1978 from 1976.

- The regional community colleges enrolled the largest percentage (13.3%) as well as the largest number (4,695) of minority students in fall 1982. Minority headcount enrollment decreased slightly between 1978 to 1980, but was up again to an all-time high in 1982. Minorities as a percent of total enrollment peaked, however, in 1976 at 13.8 percent.

- Minority students constituted 8.8 percent of total enrollment at the state technical colleges in fall 1982. This percentage has fluctuated over the six-year period and was highest in 1978 (9.3%). Headcount enrollment in 1982, however, was at an all-time high (803 students).

- Four-year national independent institutions enrolled the second highest proportion of minorities: 10.1 percent in fall 1982. These institutions, however, are likely to attract minority students from a national pool of candidates where minority representation is higher than in Connecticut (see Table 2).

- Four-year regional independent institutions enrolled the second largest number (2,506) of minority students in fall 1982 despite a decline of 334 students from 1980. Minority students, however, were only 5.9 percent of total enrollment in 1982, a rate of enrollment that was quite similar to the University of Connecticut (6.1%) and the Connecticut State University (6.0%).

- While minority enrollment as a proportion of total enrollment at two-year independent institutions declined from 8.3 percent in 1976 to 6.1 percent in 1980, it was up again to 8.5 percent in 1982. Headcount enrollment of minority students reached a high of 129 in 1982.

In summary, minority enrollment has dropped by 11.8 percent at the regional independent institutions from 1980, and by 3.3 percent at the University of Connecticut. The largest percent increase occurred at the state technical colleges, up 30.8 percent in 1982 from 1980. The largest headcount increase occurred at the regional community colleges, up 504 students in 1982 from 1980.

Fall 1982 minority enrollment by ethnic category and type of institution is provided in Table 5. The public sector enrolled 67.1 percent of minority students compared to 61.8 percent of non-minority students.

TABLE 5

ENROLLMENT BY ETHNIC CATEGORY AND TYPE OF INSTITUTION IN CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FALL 1982

	BLACK		NATIVE AMERICAN		ASIAN OR PACIFIC ISLANDER		HISPANIC		WHITE NON-HISPANIC		NON-RESIDENT ALIEN	
INSTITUTIONS	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS												
University of Connecticut	666	8.7%	42	7.3%	320	15.8%	364	11.7%	21,076	14.4%	332	10.5%
UConn Health Center	13	0.2%	-	-	14	0.7%	14	0.5%	475	0.3%	-	-
Connecticut State University	1,068	14.0%	213	37.1%	284	14.0%	393	12.6%	30,140	20.6%	282	9.0%
Regional Community Colleges	3,087	40.5%	162	28.2%	311	15.4%	1,135	36.5%	30,486	20.9%	183	5.8%
State Technical Colleges	425	5.6%	33	5.8%	187	9.3%	158	5.1%	8,272	5.7%	9	0.3%
TOTAL, State Institutions	5,259	69.0%	450	78.4%	1,116	55.2%	2,064	66.4%	90,449	61.9%	806	25.6%
U.S. Coast Guard Academy*	17	0.2%	6	1.0%	15	0.8%	20	0.6%	863	0.6%	18	0.6%
TOTAL, Public Institutions	5,276	69.2%	456	79.4%	1,131	56.0%	2,084	67.0%	91,312	62.5%	824	26.2%
INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS												
Four-Year National	779	10.2%	23	4.0%	594	29.4%	348	11.2%	14,607	10.0%	892	28.3%
Four-Year Regional	1,483	19.5%	92	16.1%	284	14.0%	647	20.8%	38,735	26.5%	1,366	43.4%
Two-Year Independent	84	1.1%	3	0.5%	12	0.6%	30	1.0%	1,359	0.9%	66	2.1%
TOTAL, Independent Institutions	2,346	30.8%	118	20.6%	890	44.0%	1,025	33.0%	54,701	37.5%	2,324	73.8%
TOTAL, ALL INSTITUTIONS	7,622	100%	574	100%	2,021	100%	3,109	100%	146,013	100%	3,148	100%

*Estimated, based on 1980 data.

- The regional community colleges enrolled the most black students (40.5% of all blacks) and Hispanic students (36.5% of all Hispanics).
- The largest proportion of Native American students (37.1%) were enrolled at the Connecticut State University.
- 29.4 percent of Asian students were enrolled at four-year national independent institutions followed by the University of Connecticut (15.8%).
- Over one quarter (26.5%) of white students were enrolled at the regional independent institutions, followed by the regional community colleges (20.9%) and the Connecticut State University (20.6%).
- Almost one-half of non-resident aliens (43.4%) were enrolled at the regional independent institutions followed by the national independent institutions (28.3%).

A detailed breakdown of minority enrollment by institution for fall 1982 is provided in Table 6.

TABLE 6

FALL 1982 ENROLLMENT OF MINORITY STUDENTS AT CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION

	Undergraduate		Graduate		First-Professional		Total Minority Headcount	Minority as a Percentage of Total 1982 Enrollment
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time		
PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS								
University of Connecticut								
Main Campus and Branches	867	154	160	160	37	14	1,392	6.1%
Health Center	-	-	-	-	41	-	41	7.9%
Subtotal	867	154	160	160	78	14	1,433	6.1%
Connecticut State University								
Central	295	292	15	76	-	-	678	5.4%
Eastern	150	70	1	5	-	-	226	6.6%
Southern	414	136	36	95	-	-	681	6.5%
Western	224	111	7	31	-	-	373	6.2%
Subtotal	1,083	609	59	207	-	-	1,958	6.0%
Regional Community Colleges								
Asnuntuck	8	110	-	-	-	-	118	6.1%
Greater Hartford	420	838	-	-	-	-	1,258	41.0%
Housatonic	159	395	-	-	-	-	554	20.8%
Manchester	149	300	-	-	-	-	449	7.1%
Mattatuck	115	126	-	-	-	-	241	6.7%
Middlesex	48	130	-	-	-	-	178	6.0%
Mohegan	15	79	-	-	-	-	94	3.9%
Northwestern Connecticut	15	30	-	-	-	-	45	1.9%
Norwalk	202	654	-	-	-	-	856	24.4%
Quinebaug Valley	21	22	-	-	-	-	43	4.4%
South Central	330	403	-	-	-	-	733	31.6%
Tunxis	54	72	-	-	-	-	12,	3.9%
Subtotal	1,536	3,159	-	-	-	-	4,695	13.3%
State Technical Colleges								
Greater New Haven	46	75	-	-	-	-	121	9.1%
Hartford	88	120	-	-	-	-	208	10.6%
Norwalk	147	184	-	-	-	-	331	17.0%
Thames Valley	31	56	-	-	-	-	87	4.7%
Waterbury	22	34	-	-	-	-	56	2.8%
Subtotal	334	469	-	-	-	-	803	8.8%
TOTAL, STATE INSTITUTIONS	3,820	4,391	219	367	78	14	8,889	8.9%
U.S. Coast Guard Academy	58	-	-	-	-	-	58	6.2%
TOTAL, PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS	3,878	4,391	219	367	78	14	8,947	8.9%
INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS								
Four-Year National								
Connecticut College	54	2	0	0	-	-	56	2.9%
Trinity College	93	11	-	7	-	-	111	5.6%
Wesleyan University	356	0	6	3	-	-	365	12.1%
Yale University	759	5	243	17	186	2	1,212	11.7%
Subtotal	1,262	18	249	27	186	2	1,744	10.1%
Four-Year Regional								
Albertus Magnus College	35	18	-	-	-	-	53	10.6%
Bridgeport Engineering Institute	-	65	-	-	-	-	65	7.2%
Educational Center for Human Dev.	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	11.1%
Fairfield University	62	10	2	32	-	-	106	2.1%
Hartford Graduate Center	-	-	2	56	-	-	58	3.0%
Hartford Seminary	-	-	3	7	-	-	10	10.3%
Holy Apostles College	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	1.3%
Paier College of Art, Inc.	11	5	-	-	-	-	16	3.6%
Post College	60	57	-	-	-	-	117	7.9%
Quinnipiac College	66	34	1	4	-	-	105	2.9%
Sacred Heart University	186	156	0	27	-	-	369	7.4%
St. Alphonsus College	14	-	-	-	-	-	14	29.0%
St. Basil's College	0	-	-	-	-	-	0	0%
St. Joseph College	27	17	0	16	-	-	60	5.0%
University of Bridgeport	46	63	2	42	-	-	153	2.4%
University of Hartford	248	76	24	48	-	-	396	4.6%
University of New Haven	432	299	16	233	-	-	980	13.4%
Subtotal	1,187	800	51	466	2	0	2,506	5.9%
Two-Year Independent								
Briarwood College	18	3	-	-	-	-	21	5.5%
Hartford College for Women	24	4	-	-	-	-	28	14.0%
Katharine Gibbs School, Inc.	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2.1%
Mitchell College	36	42	-	-	-	-	78	8.6%
Mt. Sacred Heart College	1	0	-	-	-	-	1	7.7%
Subtotal	80	49	-	-	-	-	129	8.3%
TOTAL, INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS	2,529	867	300	493	188	2	4,379	7.1%
TOTAL, ALL INSTITUTIONS	6,407	5,258	519	860	266	16	13,326	8.2%

Degrees Conferred by Minority Status

Data on awards by minority status are collected only biannually. They were not collected in 1981-82. Minority students received 5.6 percent of all awards in 1980-81, compared to 5.2 percent in 1978-79 and 4.9 percent in 1975-76. Table 7 shows awards by discipline level and minority status for 1980-81.

TABLE 7

DEGREES CONFERRED BY CONNECTICUT INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BY DISCIPLINE, LEVEL AND MINORITY STATUS 1980-81

Discipline	CERTIFICATES			ASSOCIATES		
	Minority	Non-Minority	Total	Minority	Non-Minority	Total
Arts and Science or General Programs	1	2	3	136	1,549	1,685
Business and Commerce Technologies	11	87	98	119	1,495	1,614
Data Processing Technologies	2	22	24	19	313	332
Health Services and Paramedical Technologies	2	56	58	18	636	654
Mechanical and Engineering Technologies	3	69	72	32	571	603
Natural Science Technologies	1	40	41	2	19	21
Mechanical and Engineering Technologies	9	34	43	61	433	494
TOTAL	29	310	339	387	5,016	5,403

Discipline	BACHELOR'S			MASTER'S			DOCTORAL		
	Minority	Non-Minority	Total	Minority	Non-Minority	Total	Minority	Non-Minority	Total
Agriculture and Natural Resources	4	180	184	1	62	63	1	4	5
Architecture and Environmental Design	5	38	43	2	49	51	-	-	-
Area Studies	14	143	157	1	28	29	1	8	9
Biological Sciences	62	738	800	9	149	158	4	77	81
Business and Management	112	2,559	2,671	62	1,329	1,391	0	2	2
Communications	14	238	252	-	64	66	-	-	-
Computer and Information Sciences	5	139	144	1	94	95	0	7	7
Education	41	1,168	1,209	119	2,282	2,401	11	46	57
Engineering	25	801	826	6	194	200	3	25	28
Fine and Applied Arts	17	559	576	9	263	272	0	23	23
Foreign Languages	19	208	227	2	43	45	2	27	29
Health Professions	24	863	887	28	283	311	0	15	15
Home Economics	8	206	214	0	13	13	0	1	1
Law	1	16	17	2	24	26	0	4	4
Letters	52	936	988	3	114	117	0	48	48
Library Sciences	0	12	12	4	87	91	-	-	0
Mathematics	11	185	196	1	29	30	0	13	13
Physical Sciences	17	333	350	3	90	93	0	39	39
Psychology	40	681	721	4	174	178	1	34	35
Public Affairs and Services	34	374	408	24	252	276	-	-	-
Social Sciences	153	2,056	2,209	15	200	215	4	76	80
Theology	-	-	-	4	64	68	0	7	7
Interdisciplinary Studies	20	378	398	1	20	21	-	-	-
Master of Philosophy	-	-	-	15	204	219	-	-	-
TOTAL	678	12,811	13,489	318	6,111	6,429	27	456	483

Discipline	FIRST-PROFESSIONAL		
	Minority	Non-Minority	Total
Health Professions	24	215	239
Law	28	412	440
Theology	6	111	117
TOTAL	58	738	796

When enrollment rates are compared to graduation rates, it appears that minority students are somewhat less likely to complete programs than non-minority students. Currently available data, however, do not allow for the calculation of retention rates by enrollment status, program types, or other student characteristics -- all factors which may help to explain the observed differences.

	1978-79	1980-81	1982-83
Enrollment	7.6%	8.0%	8.2%
Degrees	5.2%	5.6%	n.a.